

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 296140 TOSEC 240276

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 296140 TOSEC 240276

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

FOLLOWING REPEAT OTTAWA 4639 ACTION SECSTATE 11 DEC

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 4639

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EIND, ETEL, SCUL, CA

SUBJECT: BILL C-58

FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR PORTER

REF: OTTAWA 4636

1. AFTER FURTHER REFLECTION, I PROPOSE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF INFORMAL CANADIAN PRESS GATHERING SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 13, TO MAKE CASUAL LOW-KEY COMMENT ON TIME MAGAZINE PROBLEM, UNLESS INSTRUCTED NOT TO DO SO. MATTER USUALLY ARISES ON SUCH OCCASIONS, BUT WE HAVE AVOIDED COMMENT UP TO NOW.

2. MY COMMENT WOULD BE BRIEF AND TO EFFECT THAT
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CANADIANS OF COURSE CAN DO WHATEVER THEY PLEASE IN

THEIR OWN COUNTRY. ON OUR SIDE OF BORDER, HOWEVER,
THIS ISSUE ATTRACTING MUCH ATTENTION AND IT WILL
ATTRACT MORE WHEN BILL C-58 IS APPROVED. TIMING IS
UNFORTUNATE, COMING AS IT DOES WITH THREAT BY
SASKATCHEWAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE OVER AMERICAN
POTASH INTERESTS IN THAT PROVINCE AND CURRENT
SOMEWHAT HEATED EXCHANGES BETWEEN BRITISH
COLUMBIA AND WASHINGTON STATE OVER TWO-PRICE SYSTEM
ON GAS.

3. I BELIEVE TIME HAS COME TO MAKE PUBLIC REFERENCE
TO THESE SUBJECTS, CONFINED TO PROBABLE EFFECT ON
AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC OPINION.

4. PLEASE COMMENT.
PORTER UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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